iella. This union I have proven to be inadmissible on the ground of the totally different dentition of the radula.

Professor Tate's note, therefore, does not in the least affect the conclusions reached in my paper, viz., that *Tatea* is a valid genus of *Amnicolidæ;* that it is not at all closely related to the *Rissoininæ;* and that it is not equivalent to the genus *Eatoniella.*

It only remains to add that the paper of my esteemed colleague may be consulted with advantage for the full specific synonymy, and for details of the external anatomy of *Tatea* not given in my own communication.

DECEMBER 28.

GENERAL ISAAC J. WISTAR in the Chair.

Thirty-six persons present.

A paper entitled "Odonata (Dragonflies) from the Indian Ocean and from Kashmir collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott," by Philip P. Calvert, was presented for publication.

The following was offered from the Anthropological Section:—

The Anthropological Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences views with the deepest regret the untimely death of its late able and esteemed Director, DR. HARRISON ALLEN, to whose earnest efforts the organization and subsequent success of the Section were mainly due and who served it as Director from its first meeting until his decease. Dr. Allen's broad interest in the science of anthropology in general and his valuable series of studies in the characteristics of human crania in particular, were indicated by numerous communications to the Section, of which one, on a new method of estimating the comparative measurements of skulls, given in October, 1897, was probably his last communication before any scientific body. The high value and wide diversity of his scientific work, the originality and suggestiveness of many of his views and the deep earnestness of his devotion to scientific research render his death a serious loss to the world of science as a whole, and in particular to the institutions with which he was intimately connected. By the Anthropological Section it is felt to be a loss which cannot easily be repaired.

The communication above alluded to has been reported as follows:—

Comparative Measurements of Skulls.—At the meeting of the Anthropological Section of the Academy, held October 8, 1897, DR. HARRISON ALLEN presented a number of Hawaiian skulls, placed in his hands by Dr. Whitney, who had enjoyed exceptional opportunities for their collection. It had been found, he said, that the Hawaiian people of high caste selected different burial places from those of low caste, the former choosing caves as places of sepulture, the latter interring their dead on the sea coast. This custom renders it easy to divide the skulls into two classes, whose distinction is also indicated in their characteristics. He had found, on comparison of these classes of skulls, that they presented well-marked distinctions, not due to any difference of race, but simply to different habits and conditions. The skulls of high caste origin were found to have characters due, in his opinion, to higher intelligence and more luxurious habits of living than those belonging to the lower caste, all the differences observed being probably referable to these causes.

In comparing these characters he adopted a special method, constituting a modification of the ordinary method. Instead of indicating variations by curves, he arranged the numbers representing the measurements of significant features in the series of skulls, in steps, or terraces, each step indicating by its width the degree of preponderance of its corresponding number. Omissions in the series of numbers were likewise indicated. He considered this method superior to that of curves, as greatly simplifying the comparisons of a series of numbers, and enabling conclusions to be readily and quickly drawn.

This communication possesses a special value in its being the last made by Dr. Allen, whose death took place shortly after its delivery.

The following were ordered to be printed:—